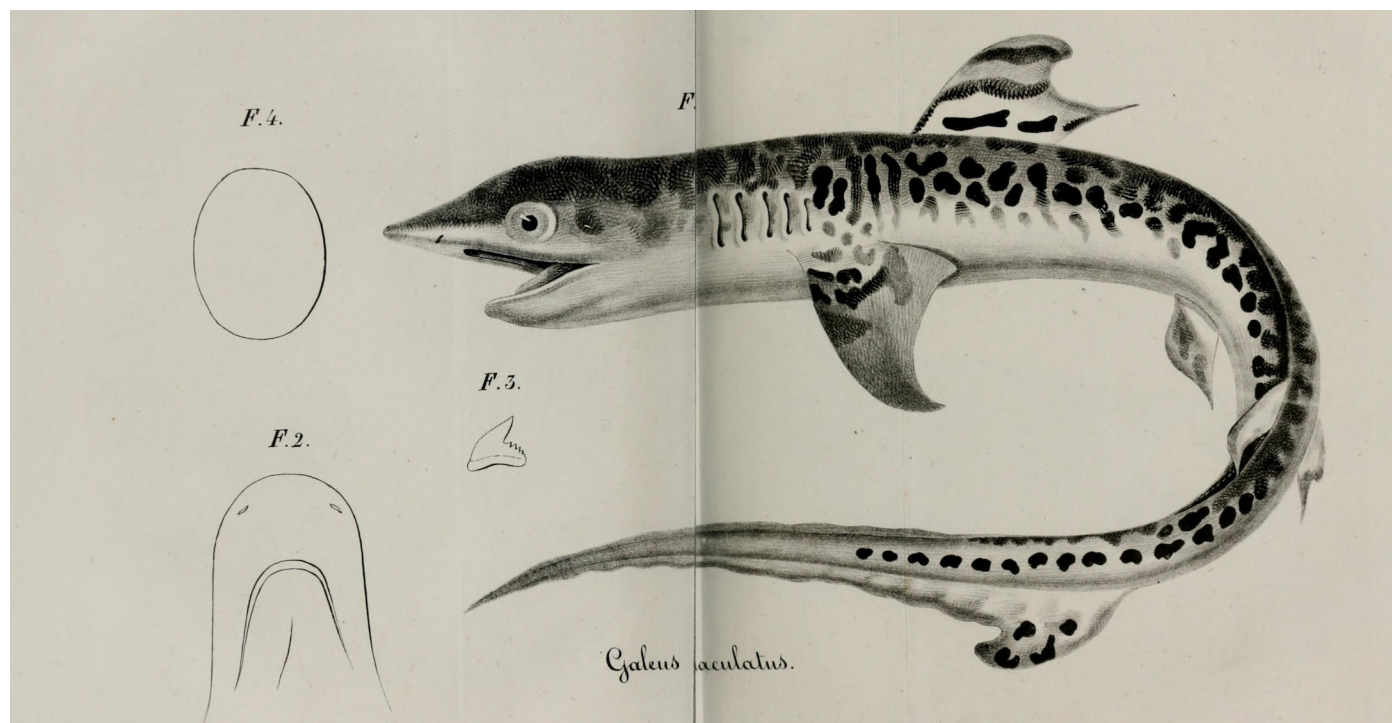


Order CARCHARHINIFORMES

Tiger Shark

Family **GALEOCERDONIDAE**

Poey 1875



Possibly first-published image of *Galeocerdo cuvier* (a juvenile, as *Galeus maculatus*, now a junior synonym). From: Ranzani, C. 1839. De novis speciebus piscium. Dissertatio prima. Novi Commentarii Academiae Scientiarum Instituti Bononiensis 4 [1840, with a separate apparently published in 1839]: 65–83, Pls. 8–13. [Plates were presented at a meeting of the Accademia della Scienze dell'Istituto di Bologna on 15 March 1838.]

Galeocerdo

Müller & Henle 1837

etymology not explained, possibly *galeo-*, referring to *Galeus*, genus in which type species, *G. arcticus* (= *cuvier*), had previously been assigned, with *Galeocerdo* described as a “transitional” (translation) genus to other galeoid sharks, and *cerdo*, from *kerdō* (Gr. κερδῶ), with two possibilities: the wily one or thief (perhaps referring to a cunning ability to steal bait from a line), or weasel (a term applied to generally smaller sharks, perhaps referring to their pointed snouts, swift movements and/or rapacious feeding behavior¹); *galeus*, from *galeós* (Gr. γαλεός), also means weasel, in which case name could be a pleonasm (a “weasel weasel”)

Galeocerdo cuvier (Péron & Lesueur 1822) patronym not identified but almost certainly in honor of French naturalist Georges Cuvier (1769–1832), then most famous for his *Le Règne Animal* (1816), a survey of the animal kingdom based on comparative anatomy [presumably a noun in apposition, without the patronymic “i”]

¹ Strömberg, R. 1943. Studien zur Etymologie und Bildung der griechischen Fischnamen. Göteborg: Wettergren & Kerber. 1–165.